

BEFORE THE NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Commission,) Docket No. 911-011/PI-79
on its own motion, to establish)
Phase II enhanced wireless 911) ORDER GRANTING FUNDING FOR
service implementation.) GIS REPOSITORY
)
)
) Entered: April 4, 2006
)

BY THE COMMISSION:

O P I N I O N A N D F I N D I N G S

Pursuant to the Enhanced Wireless 911 Services Act¹ (the Act), the Commission and its staff have been actively assisting public safety answering points (PSAPs) and wireless carriers with implementation of wireless E911. As the Commission has previously found, the safety of Nebraska's residents requires coordinated and expeditious implementation of Enhanced Wireless 911 across the state.

Implementation of enhanced wireless 911 service has been divided into Phase I and Phase II. Phase I generates a call-back number for each wireless call received by a PSAP and identifies the address of the cell tower. Phase II will provide a location for the caller within certain distance parameters set forth by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC.) However, in order to implement Phase II, PSAPs must meet certain technical requirements including having properly built map databases and hardware and software for processing data. In order to dispatch services to a precise location, the PSAP must have the ability to plot the latitude and longitude provided with the incoming call. The plotting of these coordinates requires a Geographical Information System (GIS) database including such information as centerline data.

In an order entered on August 30, 2005, the Commission approved the development of proper GIS data and map databases for PSAPs or supplementation of existing map databases necessary for Phase II service. The GIS data must be uniform throughout the state.

After GIS data is developed, ongoing maintenance is required, often on a daily basis for high-growth areas. It would create undue burden for public safety answering points (PSAPs), their designated vendors or staff of the Public Service Commission to manage this data due to its frequently changing

¹ Neb. Rev. Stat. § 86-442 et seq. (Reissue 2002).

nature. A central repository would enable each PSAP to extract the updates relevant for their county and any map data for surrounding counties, upload and download updates to the database so that current and accurate data would be available for all interested parties. A repository is a database which will contain mapping data for the entire state. As the map data is maintained, the data repository/web portal will provide a constant updating of the map data as is necessary in order to keep the data accurate and up-to-date as possible. The GIS vendors will maintain the data and the Repository will be the source of record for all GIS data for each PSAP's county data.

The Commission authorized that development of the GIS data repository proceed without a formal request for proposal (RFP) process on March 14, 2006. GIS Workshop has been chosen as the vendor to design, develop and implement an online data repository for the collection, verification and distribution of GIS data across the state.

GIS Workshop seeks initial costs of \$72,000.00 for main presentation display module, upload control module, download control module, data viewer control module, user management control module, system training and system support/hosting (for the first 12 months.) GIS Workshop seeks \$18,000.00 per year for hosting/maintenance fees and telephone support for the repository.

Costs requested are eligible under Neb. Rev. Stat. § 86-465 (2004 Cum. Supp.). All costs have been incurred or will be incurred for the development of a GIS data repository, which is necessary for the future implementation of Phase II wireless enhanced 911 service.

Based upon supporting documentation received from GIS Workshop, the Commission is of the opinion and finds that the funding should be granted.

The Commission and its authorized staff shall have access to all data developed. Additionally, agencies and political subdivisions of the state of Nebraska to the extent allowed by law and by agreement of the parties shall have access to data as deemed appropriate by the Commission.

If the Nebraska Legislature fails to appropriate or authorize the expenditure of sufficient funds to provide for the payment of costs from the Fund for the GIS repository or if a lawful order issued in or for any fiscal year during the term of the contract for services reduces the funds appropriated or authorized in such amounts as to preclude making the payments

from the Fund, the Commission's obligation to pay any costs from the Fund for the GIS repository pursuant to this order or any contract entered into pursuant to this order shall terminate on the date said funds are no longer available without any termination charges or other liability incurring to the Commission. The Commission shall provide GIS Workshop with notice not less than thirty (30) days prior to the date of cancellation, if such time is available. Otherwise, prompt notice will suffice.

O R D E R

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the Nebraska Public Service Commission that funding of the GIS data repository to GIS Workshop shall be granted subject to the terms herein.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that upon invoice from GIS Workshop, the Commission shall remit to GIS Workshop amounts that comport with this order.

MADE AND ENTERED at Lincoln, Nebraska, this 4th day of April, 2006.

NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

COMMISSIONERS CONCURRING:

Chairman

ATTEST:

Executive Director